

Korea plans new clinic for Bagram



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

A local contractor carves wood for the Korean hospital scheduled to open in late February.

By Maj. William Mott
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Freedom endures as Korea, just fifty years out of its own conflict, assists in the reconstruction of Afghanistan with professional medical assistance.

A fledgling nation itself, Korea has volunteered about 100 of its finest troops to build, maintain, staff and secure Level-1 plus and Level-2 minus (outpatient and minor surgery) medical clinics for thousands of Afghan local nationals facing major illnesses and surgical needs in Kabul, Bagram and Manas, Kyrgyzstan.

“We operate three clinics in the theater that provide care to Coalition Forces, Afghan Army trainees and Afghans,” said Col. Kookhan Kim, Korean Hospital commander.

The Manas hospital serves eight coalition forces and thousands of American troops, and in honor of that it was named after slain 9-11 New York Fire Department Fire Chief Peter J. Ganci.

In a nation where healthcare is almost nonexistent, the Korean clinic has the enormous mission to provide humanitarian assistance and health service support to the local Afghan population. “At the request of U.S. Central Command, Korea offered medical support to participate in the reconstruction campaign for Afghanistan,” said Kim.

The Korean medical team here in Bagram has treated nearly 8,000 patients, 32 percent of them children. Among the ailments are: malnutrition and internal complications brought on by contaminated water, derma-

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82nd holds live fire for fun, to refresh skills

Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Most soldiers participate in live-fire exercises such as qualification ranges a couple times a year. For the 82nd Airborne Division however, live-fire exercises are a major part of their training.

The soldiers of C Company, 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, conducted a live-fire exercise, Saturday, consisting of small arms and mortar fire.

“We try to come out here at least once a week to familiarize ourselves with our weapon systems,” said Staff Sgt. David



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Soldiers from C Company, 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, approach and fire at targets during a live-fire exercise, Saturday.

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

'Time is running out' for Iraq

UNITED NATIONS — U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on Monday urged the United Nations to stand firm against Iraq, but other nations urged patience and caution as they await the first report from the U.N. inspectors on the ground.

Weapons inspectors report to the Security Council next week on Iraq's weapons programs, Powell noted.

At that time, he said, U.N. members will face "difficult choices."

"We cannot be shocked into impotence because we're afraid of the difficult choices that are ahead of us," Powell said.

With large numbers of U.S. and British forces moving into the Persian Gulf, Powell said, Iraq "continues to misunderstand the seriousness of the position that it's in."

The U.S. is not the only nation nearing the end of its rope, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said. "There has to come a moment when our patience must run out, and we are now near that point with Iraq."



An armored vehicle from the U.S. 4th Infantry Division takes part in an exercise in December.

U.S. deploying armored force

WASHINGTON — Thousands of U.S. Army troops were preparing Monday to leave Fort Hood, Texas, after receiving deployment orders likely to take them to the Persian Gulf region for possible military action against Iraq.

More than 12,000 soldiers from elements of the mechanized 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood are expected to deploy for the Central Command region, a fort spokesman said. The deployment date is unknown.

The division's 3rd Brigade, stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, also received orders that affect almost 4,000 troops.

When those troops move out, the United States will have deployed about 123,000 troops from various military branches to the region.

Arafat backs new party leaders

JERUSALEM — On what was supposed to be the first election day for Palestinians in seven years, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Monday that he is actively pursuing new politicians within his Fatah party to take over his post.

"I am pushing them, and I am proud that our movement, our party Fatah, has a very big amount of people and members, and we are very proud of them," he said in an exclusive 10-minute interview with CNN's Michael Holmes.

The first and only Palestinian Authority elections took place in January 1996. The Palestinian Authority was scheduled to hold elections in May 1999, according to the Oslo agreement, but the postponement of peace talks delayed the vote.

The Palestinian Authority then set a date for January 20, 2003, which also has been put off indefinitely.

Arafat said he welcomed opposition candidates, pointing out that he was not the only candidate in the last elections.

"There was another candidate — she's a famous lady, and she took more than 10 percent; I have 87 percent," he said, referring to the late Sameeha Khalil, the leader of a charitable organization.

Canberra on alert as tempers flare

CANBERRA, Australia — Parts of the Australian capital are on high alert for more bush fires as accusations fly that authorities didn't do enough to stop a weekend inferno that killed four people and razed more than 400 homes.

Thousands of Canberra residents worked feverishly to protect their homes on Tuesday, while others were packed and ready to flee the smoke-filled and charred capital, as bush fires threatened to whip back into the city.



A Canberra resident sprays down his son's home with a garden hose.

Thirteen suburbs in Canberra's northwest were on high alert as a bush fire raged about 10 kilometers (six miles) away, amid forecasts of shifting winds and soaring temperatures of 35 degrees Celsius (95 Fahrenheit).

Residents climbed on to roofs with garden hoses and cut shrubs and trees from around their homes in a bid to avert a repeat of Saturday's devastating firestorm, the worst ever to hit the capital.

While Canberra is often coined the "bush capital," residents were taken by surprise at the fire's spread into the city.

Microsoft offers CD copy limits

NEW YORK — In a development that could signal new limits on copying of store-bought music, Microsoft Corp. has come up with software tools that let recording companies restrict unauthorized reproduction and sharing of music compact discs, Monday's Wall Street Journal reported.

Two major recording companies — Vivendi Universal SA's Universal Music Group and EMI Group PLC — said they are experimenting with Microsoft technology for possible use on CDs by popular music artists.

Microsoft's move, announced during the weekend at the Midem music conference in Cannes, France, comes in response to a push by movie studios and recording companies to combat piracy of songs and motion pictures through the Internet and devices such as CD recorders. The music industry saw CD sales fall 7 percent during the first half of last year, a decline recording companies blame on Internet piracy and CD recording.



Pvt. Mark Gabriel, C Company, 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, fires a squad automatic weapon during a live-fire exercise Saturday.

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Laperch, mortar section sergeant, C Co., 2/504. "Since we are in a combat zone it is important we train as often as we can."

Willingness to train is not the only factor that comes into play when conducting these exercises.

"We work on a budget," said Sgt. Ryan Paterson, squad leader, C Co., 2/504. "We are only allotted a certain amount of rounds per year. No money, no training exercises."

Fortunately, enough rounds were available Saturday to sup-



Photos by Pfc. Christina Carde

Pvt. 2 John Barton Allen, assistant gunner, C Company, 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, loads a mortar round in a live mortar exercise, Saturday.

port about two hours of live-fire training.

The small arms weapon systems consisted of machine guns, M-4 carbines and M-249 squad automatic weapons. The troops shot in the prone, standing and approaching positions while constantly receiving direction from their superiors.

On the mortar range two different types of mortars were fired.

"Today we fired about 80 rounds of high explosives and about 40 white-phosphorous

rounds," said Laperch. "The high-explosive mortars are designed to bury into the ground and take out large objects such as bunkers, and the phosphorous are designed to screen."

Although, the company trains both here and in the U.S., there are some differences.

"At the ranges back home, we aren't allowed to get as close to our targets as we want to," said Paterson. "Here, the ranges are basically open fields so we can do a lot more."

The troops have freedom of movement, but they must be aware of the added threat of land mines in the surrounding fields.

Although firing weapons is the main objective in these exercises, they are designed for more than just a chance to fire off rounds.

"In a real combat situation, there is strong possibility you can be taking heavy fire," said Sgt. Christopher James, section leader, C Co., 2/504. "Moving quickly when loading rounds is just as important as accuracy in these situations."

The purpose of these exercises is twofold. To become proficient and to have fun. Each time a mortar was fired the troops whooped and hollered when the round hit its target leaving behind a cloud of smoke.

At the end of the exercise, a vehicle repeatedly drove past a row of targets while soldiers leaned over the side and emptied their remaining rounds into the plastic silhouettes.

In the end, Paterson summed it up saying, "It's important to familiarize ourselves with our weapons, but sometimes it's fun just to blow stuff up."

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tological and minor surgical issues.

The demographics of the patients seen at the Bagram clinic are approximately 4,000 female and 4,000 male. The clinic's major equipment consists of a pharmaceutical annex, one portable X-Ray machine, an ambulance and a portable dental chair.

The clinic opened in Bagram village Nov. 2002. Growing security concerns, such as husbands with AK-47s who fear for the protection of their wives, moved the facility to the safety of Bagram Air Base where the new two-floor Republic of Korea clinic is scheduled to open in Feb. 2002.

With just three doctors and two nurses, the clinic has offered superb service to

Bagram and local areas. As the new larger clinic opens in February, other doctors and nurses will be added to the team. Included on the medical team are: a radiologist, neurologist, anesthesiologist, general surgeon and rehabilitation and operation nurses. "We are increasing our staff in Bagram and will provide Medical Civil Assistance Program support with 48th Combat Army Support Hospital to local villages," said Kim.

The Korean compound is self-sufficient. The hospital consists of the clinic, pharmaceutical annex and storage building, which was the former Bagram Post Exchange. To provide its own security the clinic has nine of its own Marine Corps soldiers deployed with them and may eventually send infantry troops to assist in the War on Terror.



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

A local contractor works to finish the construction of the Korean hospital.

U.S. Army leader tours Romanian Army compound

By Lt. Col. Jeremy Martin
Army Public Affairs

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Under Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee was hosted by Brig. Gen. Stefan Oprea, commander of the 812th Infantry Battalion, Romanian Army, Saturday during a tour of the Romanian compound at Kandahar Air Field.

The Romanian army arrived in Kandahar earlier this month in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and assumed the vitally important airport security mission.

Brownlee toured the compound and greeted soldiers, observed static displays of the battalion's equipment and weaponry, and received a unit mission briefing.

"Thank you for your outstanding professionalism and your significant contributions to the global War on Terrorism. Romania is a very strong and welcomed ally," said Brownlee.

Brownlee also recognized two Romanian soldiers for outstanding service, Cpls. Inovon Calin and Pop Constantin.

"We are very proud and honored to join the global War against Terrorism. Our soldiers will embody the spirit of our motto, 'Carpathians Hawks' which symbolizes honor, loyalty, and courage," said Oprea.

The 812th Infantry Battalion has very successfully accomplished missions in Angola, Bosnia, Kosovo and Belarus. For their outstanding performance in each of those missions the Battalion received an "Exceptionally Qualified" rating from the United Nations.

Brownlee and Oprea exchanged gifts and affirmed the commitment of the U.S. and Romanian army to the Global War on Terrorism.

"The United States sincerely appreciates your support and the support of the Romanian people for the global War on Terrorism," said Brownlee. "Your soldiers look great and seem prepared to handle any mission. It's great to have action-oriented allies like Romania."

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Changing Lanes." The story of what happens one day in New York when a young lawyer and a businessman share a small automobile accident on F.D.R. Drive, and their mutual road rage escalates into a feud.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Thirteen Days."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
Bagram:	Partly cloudy H: 54F L: 27F	Haze H: 54F L: 27F
Kandahar:	Haze H: 66F L: 43F	Mist H: 61F L: 39F
Kabul:	Haze H: 48F L: 28F	Haze H: 52F L: 25F
Uzbekistan:	Fog/snow H: 39F L: 27F	Fog H: 40F L: 26F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Rice hits winning 3-pointer at buzzer

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Darius Rice played brilliantly for 40 minutes and still managed to save his best for last.

The nephew of Oakland Raiders receiver Jerry Rice capped a 43-point performance by stealing an inbound pass and sinking a 3-pointer at the final buzzer, and the Miami Hurricanes stunned Connecticut 77-76 Monday night.

UConn appeared to clinch a victory when Ben Gordon hit two free throws with 8.9 seconds left, giving him 32 points and the Huskies a 76-72 lead.

But Miami's Armondo Surratt drove for an uncontested layup with 4 seconds to go and Shamon Tooles' hurried inbound pass was stolen in the corner by Rice, who swished a shot as time expired.

"The guy threw the ball in, and I just stuck my hand out," Rice said. "I said, 'This is mine.' I shot it, and I had no doubt it was going in."

When it did, a jubilant Rice sprinted the length of the court with his fists in the air as Hurricanes fans poured onto the floor to celebrate.

The defeat left UConn players crying in their locker room. Coach Jim Calhoun said Taliek Brown, rather than Tooles, was supposed to inbound the ball that Rice intercepted.

"I did the wrong thing by passing it," said Tooles, his eyes red. "I cost us the game. They trusted me to be in the game. I'm supposed to make the correct pass."

Price forces overtime with shot at buzzer

NORMAN, Okla. — Hollis Price made a shot at the buzzer to force overtime, then scored five of Oklahoma's nine points in the extra period as the seventh-ranked Sooners beat Texas Tech 69-64 Monday night.

Oklahoma (12-3, 3-1 Big 12) won its 32nd straight at home after seeing an eight-point lead turn into a three-point deficit in the closing seconds of regulation.

Texas Tech (11-3, 1-2) played much better than its previous conference road game, a 24-point loss to Kansas State on Jan. 11, but Price proved to be too much.

Price, who left the game briefly after getting hit in the face on a fastbreak, finished with 23 points and came through twice at the end of regulation. First, he got fouled on a 3-point try with 22.3 seconds

left and made all three free throws to tie it at 58.

Will Chavis got fouled by Price while driving to the basket at the other end and made both ends of a 1-and-1 for a 60-58 Tech lead with 4.5 seconds to play.

Oklahoma inbounded to Price, who dribbled the length of the floor and hit an off-balance jumper from about 15 feet to send the game to overtime.



Darius Rice made 7 of 12 3-pointers in the upset.

Kansas jumps six spots

ARLINGTON, Va. — Arizona, which has reeled off eight straight wins, took advantage of Duke's poor effort Saturday and seized the top spot in the latest USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll released Monday night.

Arizona (13-1) which posted conference wins over long-time rivals Southern California and UCLA, received 30 first-place votes and 774 points from a panel of Division I coaches. The Wildcats received just one first-place vote last week.

Duke (12-1) held the top spot and was the lone remaining unbeaten team in Division I until Saturday's 87-72 loss to Atlantic Coast Conference rival Maryland. The Blue Devils dropped to third with 708 points.

Moving into second was Pittsburgh (14-1), which posted a pair of easy Big East Conference victories during the week. The Panthers received the remaining first-place vote and 730 points.

Texas (12-2) pounded Big 12 Conference rivals Baylor and Texas A&M during the week and remained fourth. Florida (15-2) moved up two spots into fifth.

Kansas (13-3) used a pair of routs to jump six spots into sixth while Oklahoma (11-3) dropped from fifth to seventh following a loss to Oklahoma State.

Connecticut (11-2) dropped from sixth to eighth following a 68-65 loss to North Carolina. Creighton (15-1) moved up from 14th to ninth and Kentucky (13-3) completed the top 10.

Maryland, which lost to Wake Forest before knocking off Duke, is 11th, followed by Notre Dame (14-3), Alabama (12-3), Louisville (12-1) and Illinois (12-3). Notre Dame was hammered by Kentucky Saturday, while Alabama lost to rival Auburn that same day.

Indiana (13-3), Oklahoma State (14-1), Wake Forest (12-1), Marquette (12-3) and Missouri (10-3) complete the top 20. Oklahoma State climbed from 24th after their wins against Oklahoma

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State and Missouri.

Oregon (12-4) is 21st, followed by Georgia (10-4), which won its only game of the week. Mississippi State (10-4) dropped from 13th to 23rd following a loss at home to Alabama.

Xavier (12-4) and Texas Tech (11-2) complete the top 25.

Clemons expected to play against Iowa

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri has reinstated junior guard Ricky Clemons, who served a one-game suspension this past weekend after he was arrested and charged with second-degree domestic assault.

In a statement issued Monday, the school said Clemons is expected to play in Missouri's home game against Iowa State on Tuesday.

Authorities in Columbia said a 20-year-old woman accused Clemons of choking her at his home and prevented her from leaving last Thursday night. Police have not released the identity of the woman.

Clemons, 22, surrendered to authorities Friday afternoon and was freed that night on \$10,000 bond, authorities said. He did not play in the Tigers' 20-point loss at Oklahoma State on Saturday.

In the statement, Missouri Athletic Director Mike Alden said it is not the function of the department to take the place of the judicial process. Clemons was suspended to give school officials time to investigate the incident, and give Alden time to meet with Clemons.

Based on the information available, Alden said, "I do not believe it would be appropriate to continue to hold Ricky out of competition."

Missouri coach Quin Snyder was expected to discuss the situation following Missouri's practice Monday.

Howard powers Wake behind game-high 30 points

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — It's time for the rest of the Atlantic Coast Conference to take notice: Wake Forest's Josh Howard is among the best in the league.

Howard had his second big game of the week, scoring 30 points to lead Wake Forest to a 73-66 victory over Georgia Tech on Sunday night.

"He made a pretty strong statement about being among the best, if not the best player in the ACC," said Georgia Tech coach Paul Hewitt.

Howard, who scored 23 in Wednesday night's win over No. 17 Maryland, opened the game with a pair of 3-pointers and made big shots when needed to guide the Demon Deacons to their 11th consecutive home win.

Howard finished one point shy of his career high of 31, set earlier this season at Wisconsin.

He hit 3-of-4 3-pointers, went 11-for-12 at the free throw line, added three assists and blocked five shots — one with 44 seconds left that went into the stands.

"I know I wouldn't trade him for anyone in the ACC," Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser said. "He possess an iron will and will not lose. I'm glad I get to coach him."

Wildcats easily win eighth straight game

LOS ANGELES — Even a game against its biggest rival couldn't get UCLA out of the doldrums that have seen the Bruins sink to new lows at storied Pauley Pavilion.

Salim Stoudamire scored 19 points and No. 2 Arizona defeated hapless UCLA 87-52 Saturday to complete its first sweep of the Los Angeles schools in 10 years.

The Wildcats were surprised by UCLA's lack of spark in a game that never resembled the close contests these teams usually play. The Bruins had beaten Arizona at Pauley the last two seasons by a total of three points.

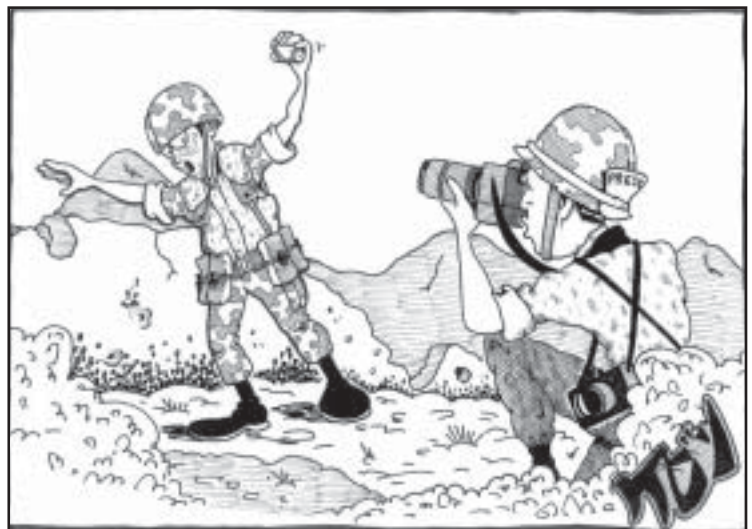
"I thought it was going to be tough and they'd give their all," said Rick Anderson, one of five Arizona players in double figures with 10 points.

"They're down and all, but I figured with us coming to town it was going to be a lot more intense than it was," said Arizona's Luke Walton, who was held to five points, five rebounds and five assists in 26 minutes.

The Wildcats (13-1) won their eighth in a row and remained atop the Pac-10 with a 6-0 record. They rallied to beat Southern California 81-72 on Thursday and then sent the Bruins to their largest defeat at Pauley, which opened in 1965.

The previous record was a 104-82 loss to California on Jan. 24, 1993, when coach Steve Lavin was an assistant under Jim Harrick. UCLA's 52 points equaled its worst output against Arizona since a 53-52 loss in 1985.

"Hold that pose!"



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support